

District III Advisory Board Minutes

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**October 6, 2004
7:00 p.m.**

**Colvin Neighborhood City Hall
2820 S. Roosevelt**

The District III Advisory Board meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Colvin Neighborhood City Hall at 2820 S. Roosevelt. The District III City Council member, Phil Lambke and six (6) District Advisory Board members were in attendance. Five (5) City staff were present and approximately five (5) members of the public, most of whom signed in.

Members Present

Jim Gulick
William Ward
Charlotte Foster
Matt Foley
Joann Hartig
Phyllis Hall
CM Phil Lambke

Members Absent

Judy Dillard
John Kemp
Laura Simpson

Staff Present

Vicki Mork
Jade Dundas
Officer Dwain Diehl
Officer Ginny Wylie
Officer Darlene Zerr

Guests

see page 5

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Council Member Lambke called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Ward (Gulick) approved minutes for September 1, 2004 by a vote of 6-0.

Public Agenda

1. Scheduled Items

Foley commended City Council for Police pay raise as supported by DAB III.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

2. Off Agenda Items

None scheduled at this time

Recommended Action: Provide comments/take appropriate action.

Staff Presentations

3. Community Police Report

Officer Diehl reported on Revitalization efforts for the South Central Improvement Alliance. There have been numerous graffiti problems on his beat and a meeting about this is scheduled for community members at South Patrol Friday, October 8th at 6:00 p.m. He also reported the South Central Progressive Neighborhood Association will have their neighborhood clean up this Saturday.

Officer Wylie, 25 Beat reports 17 residences had burglaries in Linwood Apartments. She arrested the maintenance man, recovered property and the burglaries have ceased.

Officer Zerr, 35 Beat Fabrique Neighborhood Association in her area. **Foster** reported graffiti on the Davis-Moore Dealership fence.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

4. Wichita Downtown Development Corporation

Presentation by George Fahnestock, community volunteer about the proposed downtown arena. He recounted history for event center back to 1977. Century II was built to replace the old Forum and a decision was made to hold no dirt events there. The Coliseum was built and the mission expanded beyond rodeos, monster trucks etc. A recent lawsuit filed against Sedgwick County regarding handicapped accessibility for Coliseum and if a new arena is not build downtown extensive renovation will be required..

An earlier referendum item for a downtown arena was unanimously approved by City Council but then removed from ballot due to poor economic times here in Kansas. Meanwhile a \$55 million renovation was proposed for the Coliseum through joint efforts of City and County in response to the handicapped accessibility lawsuit. On November 2nd another referendum is slated for public voting, if it is a successful vote it will approve a time limited sales tax that will generate the following funds: \$185 million for a downtown arena; for a limited \$10 million Coliseum renovation; \$20 million for parking; and a \$23 million reserve maintenance and operation fund so additional government funds will not be needed.

George emphasized three main points if project is passed by voters: 1) project funded by 1 cent County wide sales tax for 30 months and an estimated \$45-55 million of \$238 million will be generated by visitors from outside Wichita; 2) arena would be a hub for Downtown Wichita and support efforts already made in downtown; 3) generate additional contributions to existing downtown efforts.

If it is a no vote then the proposed \$55 million improvement to the Coliseum could take 20 years to pay off by property owners in Sedgwick County and could possibly increase the mill levy. Fahnestock believes this will define the future of the community.

DAB members asked questions starting with **Hartig** who asked if the county was really going to raise taxes and **Fahnestock** explained he was unable to predict that but the \$55million renovation represented 1.4 mills property tax. **Foley** asked about the future of the Kansas Coliseum and **Fahnestock** explained if Downtown arena passes then most likely that would compel a redefined mission of the Coliseum which may put the Britt Brown arena in mothballs and result in a \$10 million renovation of the Pavillions for continued livestock events and shows. **Ward** asked if the planning group for the arena had conferred with NCAA on the appropriate size of the facility and was told they had.

Hall asked if the Arena would compete with Century II and **Fahnestock** explained it will not compete with Century II but would add to the variety of entertainment possible in downtown Wichita. Hall is also concerned with traffic and Fahnestock explained the plan calls for 4 different exits, compared it to the two exits available at the Coliseum currently.

Gulick expressed concern about the Arena being additional burden to tax payers but Fahnestock explained that with the \$23 million reserve that would not be the case. **Foley** asked if the State will return sales tax to Sedgwick County and **Fahnestock** assured him that it's the law and the tax can't be extended beyond 30 months. **Foster** asked if we can trust our officials and **Fahnestock** explained there was strong collaboration on this project between all pertinent City, County, Convention and Visitors Bureau officials.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

5. Water and Sewer Department

Jade Dundas, Superintendent of Sewage Treatment and **Timothy Lyons**, Engineering consultant presented information on the proposed change of location for the junction boxes along the Kansas Turnpike and on MacArthur. They explained they were appearing before the DAB to make sure there were no design problems with the project after the fact, like the blue roof in northeast Wichita. The junction box changes are necessary as the sewer pipeline is being modified due to changes for the wastewater treatment facility Plant # 1 and south Secondary Treatment facility Plant #2. They reviewed the proposed project along with pictures and requested DAB III approval for structure design.

Because the junction box is quite close to MacArthur Street **Gulick** asked what would happen if the street was ever widened? Lyons responded McArthur already has 5 lines, they felt there was small chance of this happening and moving the structure back further from the road exceeded the budget. **Council Member Lambke** suggested planting larger trees.

Recommended Action: Motion (Foley, Hartig) passed 6:0 that DAB III recommend approval of the junction boxes located on Macarthur Road and south of the Boeing Landfill .

Motion of adjournment Gulick (Ward).

6. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting for District Advisory Board III will be November 3, 2004 at Colvin Neighborhood City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

No Action Required

Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Mork, Neighborhood Assistant

Visitors

Betty Strickland
Annette Mapes
Jim Skelton
Gerald Hall
Timothy Lyons
Elena Ingle

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